

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of FRASER, A. et al.

Serial No.: Unassigned
(PCT WO/GB 00/01001)
Filed: September 18, 2001

For: APPARATUS FOR HOLDING
A COMPACT DISK

L. Nelson
#7/ Pre Amtd. A
7-8-02
Group Art Unit: Unassigned

Examiner: Unassigned

Date: September 18, 2001

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND PRIORITY CLAIM UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 371

Honorable Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington D.C. 20231

Sir:

CLAIM OF FOREIGN PRIORITY

The accompanying newly filed application is a national stage application filed under 35 U.S.C. § 371 relating to and claiming priority of Application No. PCT WO/GB 00/01001, filed under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT). Applicants hereby claim a right of priority as provided in 35 U.S.C. § 119. A copy of the PCT application, Request for Examination, International Search Report with associated references and the Preliminary Examination Report are enclosed.

CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited by personal delivery in the United States Patent and Trademark Office in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington D.C. 20231, on

Deanna Buxam
Signature

September 18, 2001
Date of Deposit

9/18/2001
Date of Signature

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination, Applicants respectfully request entry and consideration of the following amendments to the claims. A clean copy of these amended claims and all original claims not canceled is provided in the accompanying attachment.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1-9, 12-16 and 20-22 as follows:

1. Apparatus for holding a compact disk having a central hole, the apparatus comprising: a base portion; at least one inwardly extending radial arm resiliently cantilevered from the base portion; disk-engaging means at the inner end of the said at least one arm for releasably engaging the central hole of the disk and supporting the centre of the disk away from the base portion; the or each arm having first pivot means in the region where it joins the base portion and second pivot means radially inward of the first pivot means; the arrangement being such that depression of the disk-engaging means towards the base portion causes the inner end of the said at least one arm, and at least a central portion of the disk, to be depressed towards the base portion, the [arm] disk-engaging means initially pivoting about the first pivot means and subsequently pivoting about the second pivot means until inward movement of the disk-engaging means is sufficient to releaser retention of the disk by the disk-engaging means [is released].
2. Apparatus as claimed in Claim 1 in which the second pivot means comprises a projection on the underside of the [, or each,] at least one radial arm.
3. Apparatus as claimed in claim 2 in which the projection comprises a ridge extending laterally across the underside of the [, or each,] at least one radial arm.
4. Apparatus as claimed in claim 2 [or 3] in which the projection projects from the underside of the[, or each,] at least one radial arm by a distance of 0.5-1.0 mm.